No. 1268 *of* 1897.

DEPARTMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, N.-W. P. AND OUDH.

From the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, To the Director, Land Records and Agriculture, dated, Cawnpore, the 22nd July 1897.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that when the weak monsoon of 1896 made the grave failure of the autumn crops in these Provinces a certainty and serious anxiety began to be felt as to the prospect of the spring harvest, the Government acting with advice of experts imported a large quantity of carrot seed from Europe with a view to growing a root crop as an auxiliary source of food supply in the winter before the Rabi could be gathered.

2. The seed received was of the following 3 varieties :—

Large white Mediterranean.
Do yellow ditto.
Do red ditto.

3. Owing chiefly to late arrival of the seed consignments in India the whole quantity could not, however, be disposed of, and the seed which remained undistributed has been stored in the Godowns of this Department at Cawnpore in airtight chambers.

4. I have now the honor to ask your co-operation in disposing of the surplus stock mentioned above.

5. The jails, gardens, agricultural associations, landholders and agriculturists in your provinces are likely to require carrot seed for sowing next winter. I shall therefore feel much obliged if you will be good enough to ascertain from the institutions, bodies and individuals above referred to what quantity of the imported seed they can find use for, and let me know the probable quantity required in your province. I shall then be glad to arrange for its supply. Only cleaned seed which has given satisfactory germination results will be issued.

6. The rate for the seed of the red variety is 8 annas and for the yellow or white variety 6 annas a seer (2 lbs).

7. The favor of a reply by the middle of September is requested in order that I may be able to so arrange for despatch of the seed from here as to ensure its arrival in your province in time for sowing.

8. I send spare copies of this letter in the hope that you may see fit to circulate it in your province.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. S. MESTON,
Director.